



# County of Fairfax, Virginia

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** March 15, 2011

**TO:** Annie Carroll  
Acting Executive Director, Human Rights Commission

**FROM:** David M. Rohrer, Colonel  
Chief of Police

**SUBJECT:** Police Department Bias Crime Annual Report

**REF:** Calendar Year 2010

The 2010 calendar year found 48 reported bias events, four less than the 52 reported for the previous year. Fifteen of the events were classified as bias incidents (an event motivated by bias that does not violate criminal law) and 33 were classified as bias crimes. In comparison, CY09 saw 16 incidents and 36 crimes, thus bias crimes saw a reduction of three and incidents by one.

The 26 reported bias crimes against property (destruction of property) for 2010 was an increase of 5 over the 21 reported in CY09. Crimes against persons (7) however, decreased by 8 cases in comparison to the 15 in CY09. The reported bias crimes against property increased 20% however, the percentage of reported bias crimes against persons fell almost 50%. The reported cases do not reveal any specific trends.

The 26 bias crimes against property reported in 2010 are classified as follows:

- Destruction of Property (26)

The 7 bias crimes against persons reported in 2010 are classified as follows:

- Phone Threats (1)
- Assault (5)
- Robbery (1)

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In CY10, a robbery included a bias event. The victim of the robbery was homosexual. The suspects approached the victim, demanded his money and fled. The victim believed the robbery was bias motivated due to his manner of dress. Five suspects were detained matching the victim's description, however, the victim refused to co-operate and the suspects were released. This type of bias incident involving a felony crime is rarely reported in Fairfax County. The overall rate of bias incidents in Fairfax County remains low in light of the population and in comparison to other reported crimes.

The Fairfax County Police Department fully investigates all reported bias events occurring within Fairfax County. The Department's closure rate for bias crimes remains above the national average. The Department continues to train our officers in recognizing and investigating bias crime and incidents. Officers receive bi-annual cultural diversity training thus maintaining awareness and sensitivity to those victims of bias crime and events. The Police Department promotes outreach efforts to all communities to ensure all individuals receive equal protection, while protecting their civil rights regardless of race, religious conviction, ethnic/national origin, disability, or sexual orientation.

Should you have any questions regarding this report, please contact our Bias Crimes Investigations Coordinator, Second Lieutenant David R. Smith.

DMR/drs

Attachment

**ATTACHMENT**

## 2009 Fairfax County Bias Crime and Incident Reports

